

Have You Heard the Buzz on U.S. Wood?

In 2000, there was 30% more timber volume per acre in the United States than in 1952.

Our Living, Breathing Forests

To grow a pound of wood, a healthy tree typically uses nearly a pound and a half of carbon dioxide and gives off more than a pound of oxygen.

The process reverses itself in an old forest with more wood decaying than growing: for every pound of wood decaying, a pound of oxygen is used and nearly one-and-one-half pounds of carbon dioxide is released into the air.



How Much Wood . . . ?

- On the average, every American uses the equivalent of one tree that is 18 inches in diameter and 100 feet tall, every year. That's 80 cubic feet!

- Forest products are recyclable and biodegradable. In 1993, nearly 1 million tons of wood were recovered for recycling and reuse in products ranging from particleboard and paper to garden mulch. More than 95% of the bark and wood residues generated from producing lumber and plywood are used for energy and in other products.

We're Growing More Wood Than We're Harvesting

- In 1920, timber harvest rates nationally were double the rate of forest growth; by 1986, net annual growth was 3.5 times what it was in 1920.

- In 1995, some 1.6 billion seedlings were planted in the United States—more than five new trees a year for every American.

Q: Who's doing the planting?

A: The forest industry (43%), private landowners (42%), and the government (15%).

Annual growth exceeds harvests and losses to insects and disease by 33% each year in the commercial forests.

Wood is the only building material that comes from a renewable resource. Most others come from non-renewable resources, such as the petrochemicals used in plastics and the ores used for aluminum and iron.

A Growing Giant: The U.S. Wood Industry

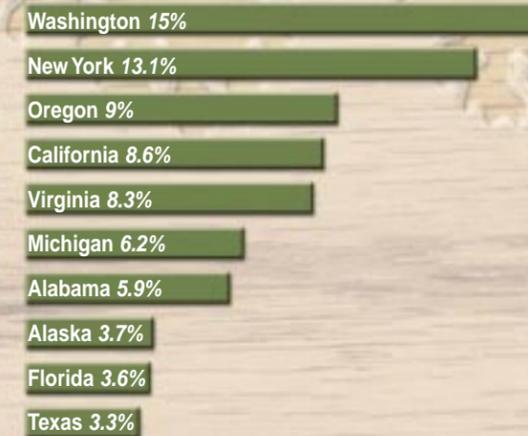
Employment for U.S. Solid Wood Industry in 1997



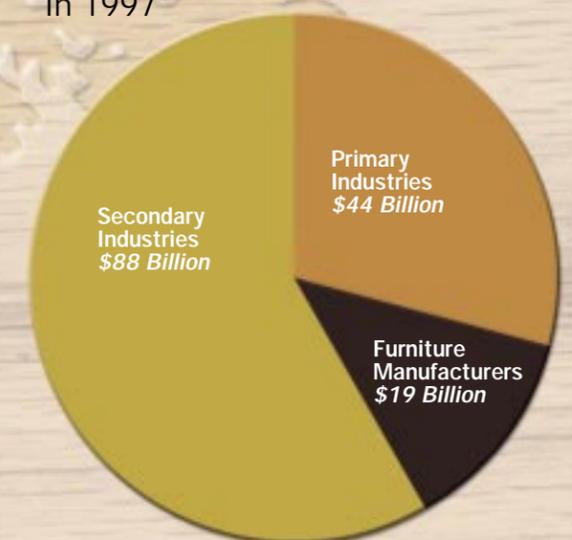
Top Ten U.S. States with the Most Timberland million acres



Top Ten States with Greatest Share of U.S. Solid Wood Exports



Value of Shipments for U.S. Solid Wood Industry in 1997



Did You Know?

The United States is the largest hardwood producer and exporter in the world, yet consumes nearly 90 percent of its production domestically.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

One-third of U.S. land is covered in forests; this is the No. 1 type of land cover in the country.

One-fifth of U.S. land is timberland; that is, capable of producing 20 cubic feet per acre of industrial wood annually. This constitutes 504 million acres.

The leading hardwood producing regions in the United States are northeastern and south-central states. The leading softwood producing regions in the U.S. are the Pacific northwest and the southeast.

The state with the highest percentage of land area that is timberland is Maine. The state with the most total timberland is Georgia.

Our largest solid wood export market is Canada; the largest overseas market is Japan. The fastest growing markets include China, Canada and Caribbean nations.

The housing sector accounts for about 20% of U.S. GNP. Increasing population and incomes both at home and overseas will expand opportunities for U.S. solid wood producers and manufacturers.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

The Wood Exporter's Contact List

Government

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service
Forest and Fishery Products Division
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Ag Stop 1047
Washington, DC 20250-1047
Tel.: (202) 720-0638
Fax: (202) 720-8461
<http://www.fas.gov/ffpd/fpd/html>

USDA Animal & Plant Health
Inspection Service (APHIS)
4700 River Road, Unit 133
Riverdale, MD 20737
Tel.: (301) 734-8262
Fax: (301) 734-5786
<http://www.aphis.usda.gov>

USDA Forest Service
P.O. Box 96090
Washington, DC 20090-6090
Tel.: (202) 205-1650
Fax: (202) 205-1603
<http://www.fs.fed.us>

U.S. Department of Commerce
International Trade Administration
U.S. and Foreign Commercial Service
14th St. & Constitution Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20230
Tel.: (202) 377-3181
<http://www.ita.doc.gov>

U.S. Customs Service
1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20229
Tel.: (202) 927-0400
Fax: (202) 927-2064
<http://www.customs.ustreas.gov>

U.S. Small Business Administration
Office of International Trade
409 Third Street, SW
Washington, DC 20416
Tel.: (800) 827-5722
Fax: (202) 606-4000
<http://www.sbaonline.sba.gov>

Industry

American Forest and Paper
Association
1111 19th Street, NW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
Tel.: (202) 463-2700
Fax: (202) 463-2787
<http://www.afandpa.org>

American Hardwood Export Council
1111 19th Street, NW Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
Tel.: (202) 463-2700
Fax: (202) 463-2787
<http://www.ahec.org>

APA-The Engineered Wood
Association
7011 South 19th Street
P.O. Box 11700
Tacoma, WA 98466-5399
Tel.: (253) 565-6600
Fax: (253) 565-7265
<http://www.apawood.org>

Softwood Export Council
520 SW. 6th Avenue, Suite 810
Portland, OR 97204-1514
Tel.: (503) 248-0406
Fax: (503) 224-3934
<http://www.softwood.org>

Southern Forest Products Association
P.O. Box 651700
Kenner, LA 70064-1700
Tel.: (504) 443-4464
Fax: (504) 443-6612
<http://sfpa.org/index.htm>

Universities

Center for Forest Products Marketing
and Management
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Blacksburg, VA 24061
Tel.: (540) 231-5876
Fax: (540) 231-8868
<http://www.woodscience.vt.edu/FutStu/resfac.htm>

Center for International Trade in
Forest Products (CINTRAFOR)
College of Forest Resources
University of Washington
Box 352100

Seattle, WA 98195-2100
Tel.: (206) 543-8684
Fax: (206) 685-0790
<http://www.cintrafor.org/>

Department of Forest Products
119 Richardson Hall
College of Forestry
Oregon State University
Corvallis, OR 97333-5751
Tel.: (541) 737-4461
Fax: (541) 737-3385
E-mail: forestproducts@orst.edu
<http://www.cof.orst.edu/>

Forest Products Development Center
Auburn University School of Forestry
108 M. White Smith Hall
Auburn University, AL 36849
Tel.: (334) 844-1094
<http://www.forestry.auburn.edu>

Louisiana Forest Products Laboratory
Room 227 School of Forestry, Wildlife
and Fisheries
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803
Tel.: (225) 388-4255
Fax: (225) 388-4251
<http://www.lfpl.forestry.lsu.edu/>

The Bugwood Network
College of Agricultural and
Environmental Sciences
Warnell School of Forest Resources
University of Georgia
Tifton, GA 31794
<http://www.bugwood.org>

University of Maine
Department of Industrial Cooperation
5787 Winslow Hall Room 106
Orono, ME 04469-5782
Tel.: (207) 581-2883
Fax: (207) 581-2875
<http://www.umaine.edu/dic/Projects/ForestAgr.htm>

For information on exporting solid
wood products and for links to other
authoritative sites, check out the
Foreign Agricultural Service website:
<http://www.fas.usda.gov/ffpd/fpd.html>